



GUIDELINES FOR SEQUENCING AND REGISTRATION PROCESS FOR HCW COVID VACCINATION

FEBRUARY 5TH 2021

1. Guidelines for Sequencing for Healthcare Worker Vaccination

1.1 Introduction

This sequencing process applies to HCW who have not yet had a first dose of COVID-19 vaccine and are included in the Provisional Vaccine Allocation Groups 2 & 4, as outlined on page 9 of the 'National COVID-19 Vaccination Programme: Implementation Plan' .

<https://www.gov.ie/en/publication/bf337-COVID-19-vaccination-strategy-and-implementation-plan/>, and who work in the following:

- A. HSE or HSE-funded organisations**
- B. Private hospitals/Clinics**
- C. Community based not-for-profit and private healthcare providers not directly funded by the HSE**

Sequencing should not be based on where people work (community or acute hospital), who they work for (public sector, voluntary or private sector), and category of worker or grade. Instead sequencing is based on the type of work and the setting in which HCW work and maintaining a safe level of health and social care services.

HCWs from all staff groupings who work in the units, wards or services, community settings day, residential and respite services, all the time, or who attend occasionally must be included. Examples of these are support staff, agency staff, students, administration staff, volunteers and other healthcare professionals (physiotherapists, PHN's, speech and language therapists, home support workers, radiologists, pharmacists, etc.)

Healthcare Workers who usually work in these roles but who are currently out of work due to, for example, sick leave, high or higher risk medical status, maternity leave etc. must be included for vaccination in the relevant groups/cohorts.



1.2. Sequencing of Healthcare Workers Priority Groups

Examples are given for each subgroup, but these are non-exhaustive.

Provisional Vaccine Allocation Group 2

2 (a) Healthcare workers who are working in a congregated care setting (unit/ward/service) in contact with a known or suspected COVID 19 patient/service user where there is potential for active transmission of COVID-19. These are patient/service user facing HCWs in units, wards or services:

- with known or suspected COVID-19 patients/service user in an inpatient clinical setting.
- with current COVID-19 outbreaks.
- who work in COVID-19 assessment hubs or who work in or are called to attend to patients in an emergency department or similar setting;
- who work in COVID-19 swabbing centres with patient/service user contact.
- dealing with end of life care for the care of COVID patients/service users in an acute or home settings
- COVID-19 Vaccinators
 - Paramedics and others who respond to emergency calls to deliver healthcare to non-triaged individuals in non-healthcare settings.

2 (b) Healthcare workers who deal with unscheduled care patients/service user on a regular basis in an uncontrolled environment

- First Responders in the community.
- HCWs working in Emergency Child Protection services

2 (c) Healthcare workers who deal with unscheduled care patients/service users in a semi-controlled environment on a regular basis. These are HCWs who mainly see patients/service users by appointment but who may from time to time need to see urgent unscheduled patients/service users

- Urgent care facility clinical staff.
- GP practice staff - GPs/Practice Nurses
- Dentists and dental nurses providing urgent dental care.



Some public health nurse providing urgent unscheduled care

2 (d) Healthcare workers who deal with unscheduled care patients in a controlled environment on a regular basis

- Patient facing staff who work in in-patient/residential care areas that provide care for unscheduled care /service users and community settings providing walk in access for patients/service users. For example walk-in community services, Addiction services, homeless service, walk-in mental health facilities.

2 (e) Healthcare workers who deal with scheduled care patients in an uncontrolled environment on a regular basis where there is no known COVID- diagnosis

- Delivery of care by appointment in a patient/service user's home, for example home support, community delivered services, public health services and social care services, non-emergency patient/service user transport, residential and respite services,

2 (f) Healthcare workers who deal with scheduled care patients/service users in a controlled setting on a regular basis where there is no known COVID diagnosis

- Delivery of scheduled care by appointment in a clinic, outpatient clinic or hospital
- Provision of such therapies as physiotherapy, occupational therapy, podiatry
- Provision of face to face appointments, for example Occupational Health, Psychiatry, , Counselling/Therapy services .

2(g) All other healthcare workers without direct patient care but working in a healthcare facility with the potential to meet patients/service users, who are not captured in 2a – 2f

- Examples are Laboratory staff, pharmacists, catering, household staff, general support staff, ICT, maintenance staff.
- Statutory/Regulatory workers e.g. HIQA inspectors, EHOs and others
- Critical management posts particularly on COVID response teams who provide on-going daily support to multiple locations.

Provisional Vaccine Allocation Groups 4

All other healthcare workers, not in direct patient/service user contact, but who provide essential health services, for example, management, administration and other non-patient/service user facing personnel.



1.3 Instructions for Registration

- 1.31 Log into the portal by clicking on <https://www.hse.ie/hcwwaccine/>
- 1.32 Enter all your details including relevant sequencing group (2a-2f), based on the above guidelines. Questions or queries on this should be addressed to line management
- 1.33 An appointment will be sent to each HCW to attend a vaccination clinic
- 1.34 There will be a requirement to present for vaccination with photo ID and acceptable credentials (Workplace photo ID, Letter from employer, Certificate of current registration status with relevant Irish Regulatory Body)
- 1.35 Credentials can be checked prior to entry to vaccine clinic
- 1.36 **DO NOT ATTEND THE VACCINE CLINICS IF YOU ARE SYMPTOMATIC OR IF YOU HAVE BEEN ADVISED TO SELF ISOLATE OR RESTRICT YOUR MOVEMENTS, a later appointment will be sent to you, to accommodate this**